

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CASE NO.: 4:13CR246
)	
Plaintiff,)	JUDGE BENITA Y. PEARSON
)	Magistrate Judge George J. Limbert
v.)	
)	
MAN ZHANG,)	<u>REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION</u>
)	<u>OF MAGISTRATE JUDGE</u>
Defendant.)	

Pursuant to General Order 99-49, this case was referred to United States Magistrate Judge George J. Limbert on August 21, 2013, for the purposes of receiving, on consent of the parties, Defendant's offer of a plea of guilty, conducting the colloquy prescribed by Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, causing a verbatim record of the proceedings to be prepared, referring the matter for presentence investigation, and submitting a Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation stating whether the plea should be accepted and a finding of guilty entered. ECF Dkt. #28. The following, along with the transcript or other record of the proceedings submitted herewith, constitutes the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation concerning the plea of guilty proffered by Defendant.

1. On August 21, 2013, Defendant Man Zhang, accompanied by Attorney Edgar L. Fankbonner and Attorney Rhys Cartwright-Jones, executed a consent to referral of his case to a United States Magistrate Judge for the purpose of receiving his guilty plea.

2. Defendant Zhang then proffered a plea of guilty to the sole count charged in the Indictment, however Defendant Zhang did not agree to the value attributed to the counterfeit merchandise described in the Indictment.

3. Prior to such proffer, Defendant Zhang was examined as to his competency, advised of the charges and consequences of conviction, informed that the Court is not bound to apply the Federal Sentencing Guidelines but must consult the guidelines and take them into consideration when it imposes the sentence and of the possibility of a departure from the Guidelines, notified of his rights, advised that he was waiving all of his rights except the right to counsel, and, if such were the case, his right to appeal, and otherwise provided with the information prescribed in Fed. Crim. R. 11.

4. The undersigned was advised that no written plea agreement existed between the parties, no commitments or promises have been made by any party, and no other written or unwritten agreements have been made between the parties.

5. The undersigned questioned Defendant Zhang under oath about the knowing, intelligent and voluntary nature of the plea of guilty, and the undersigned believes that Defendant Zhang's plea was offered knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily.

6. The parties provided the undersigned with sufficient information about the charged offense and Defendant Zhang's conduct to establish a factual basis for the plea.

In light of the foregoing, and the record submitted herewith, the undersigned concludes that Defendant Zhang's plea was knowing, intelligent, and voluntary and all requirements imposed by the United States Constitution and Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 have been satisfied.

Accordingly, the undersigned recommends that the plea of guilty be accepted and a finding of guilty be entered by the Court to the sole count charged in the Indictment, with the exception of the value attributed to the counterfeit merchandise described in the Indictment.

Date: August 21, 2013

/s/George J. Limbert

George J. Limbert

United States Magistrate Judge

ANY OBJECTIONS to this Report and Recommendation must be filed with the Clerk of Court within fourteen (14) days of service of this notice. Fed. R. Crim. P. 59. Failure to file objections within the specified time constitutes a WAIVER of the right to appeal the Magistrate Judge's recommendation. *Id.*